



The League's Prosperity Agenda


Senate Local Government and Elections Committee





Michigan Municipal League
Better Communities. Better Michigan.

Our Goal




To create the kind of Michigan we want . . .


- With places people choose to live, work, learn and play
- Where prosperity happens (high income and low unemployment)


Our Goal

"The industries I think about most ... are far more sensitive to the quality of TALENT in the AREA than they are to tax policies."

- Bill Gates




Our Goal Michigan Prosperity Report 




Prosperity happens . . .


- Where high concentrations of college educated, talented and creative people live.
- These same people can choose to live, work, learn and play where ever they want.
- Metro areas and central cities are key.

Our Goal Michigan Prosperity Report 

What Michigan can learn from prosperous states . . .

- People choose places like Chicago, Minneapolis, Boston, Denver, Charlotte, Dallas, Austin and other communities that offer the lifestyle attributes and amenities they seek.
- These places offer ways of life attractive to talented, educated people.
- The public policies they have adopted are creating the prospering places Michigan needs . . .

Prospering Places Offer Michigan Prosperity Report 




Significant Public Transit Systems

Buses * Light Rail * Commuter Rail * Passenger Rail * Driving Alternatives * Extensive Networks of Bike Lanes & Walking Trails

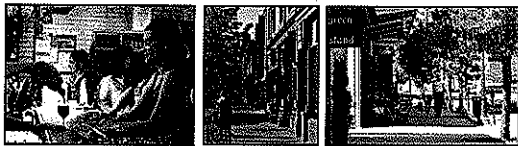
Prospering Places Offer

Vibrant Downtowns & Neighborhoods

- People live, work, learn, play and shop in close proximity
- Policies foster "walkable urbanism"




Prospering Places Offer



Mixed-use Developments

- Buildings tend to go up instead of out
- People live, work and shop under the same roof


Prospering Places Offer



Green Spaces

Parks * Trails * Gardens * Fountains

Prospering Places Offer




Thriving Entertainment & Cultural Attractions

Restaurants * Cafes * Bars * Book Stores * Dance Clubs *
Museums * Libraries * Theaters * Nightclubs * Live Music

Prospering Places Offer

Economic Development Initiatives

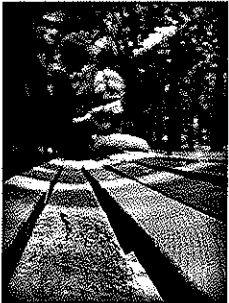
Growing local economies by 1, 2 and 3 jobs through strategies like economic gardening and support for entrepreneurs.




The League's Prosperity Agenda


What is our Prosperity Agenda?


Prosperity Policies and Policy Actions so that together with the Legislature, we can create places of prosperity in Michigan.




The League's Prosperity Agenda THE LEAGUE FOR THE AMERICAN CITY 


Prosperity Policy:
Significantly expand public transit in Michigan.




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Prosperity Policy:
Protect public safety and other essential local services.




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Prosperity Policy:
Use limited funds to restore local infrastructures first.




The League's Prosperity Agenda Prosperity Policy Agenda 


Prosperity Policy:
Give communities all available tools to manage costs and control revenues.



The League's Prosperity Agenda Prosperity Policy Agenda 

Prosperity Policy:
Promote sustainable development, green initiatives and cultural economic development.

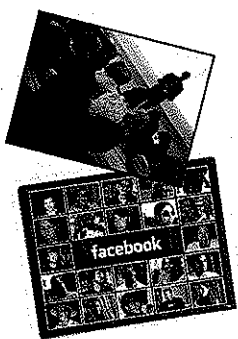


The League's Prosperity Agenda Prosperity Policy Agenda 

We are doing our part . . .

We are educating
Center for 21st Century Communities: Teaching local officials to create communities for the future.

- assets of 21st century communities
- member education and public outreach
- strategic partnerships
- technical services
- special projects



Specific 2011 Reforms

Michigan Municipal Reform



- PA 312: Prevent excessive costs for communities which result in layoffs of police and fire employees by reforming mandatory binding arbitration to require arbitrators to consider, first and foremost, the ability of the community to pay the settlement and internal comparables.
- Consolidations (Urban Cooperation Act, others): Allow communities to consolidate services without costing more due to barriers in the Act that result in all bargaining units to move to the highest level.

Specific 2011 Reforms

Michigan Municipal Reform



- Online Public Notices: Communities are now required to post a number of legal notices in newspapers to satisfy notice requirements. The option to post these online instead would provide more transparent and effective notice and reduce local government costs.
- One-Time Tax Collection: Currently local communities levy taxes in July and December. Switching to one-time tax collection could save local governments an estimated \$60 million per year according to the Department of Treasury in 2010

Specific 2011 Reforms

Michigan Municipal Reform



- 2 inch rule: Previous law allowed defects in a sidewalk less than two inches to have a rebuttable inference that the community maintained the sidewalk properly. The Michigan Supreme Court struck this down for cities in 2010, but asked the legislature to re-pass this law with a clearer intent. Reinstating this law would minimize the increased costs due to increased liability.
- Corrections: MDOC operated a program allowing communities to hire prisoner work crews to perform work at a significantly lower rate than other workers. It was eliminated in 2010 as a result of budget cuts. Reinstating this program (even at a higher cost to local units) would provide cost savings for communities.

1. The first part of the report is a general introduction to the subject.

2. The second part is a detailed description of the methods used in the study.

3. The third part is a discussion of the results of the study.

4. The fourth part is a conclusion and a list of references.

5. The fifth part is a summary of the main findings of the study.

6. The sixth part is a list of the names of the authors and their institutions.

7. The seventh part is a list of the titles of the papers included in the study.

8. The eighth part is a list of the names of the reviewers and their comments.

9. The ninth part is a list of the names of the members of the committee.

10. The tenth part is a list of the names of the members of the jury.

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